



Logistics Command hosts first senior enlisted seminar



Pamela Jackson

Master Sgt. Bryan Simons, staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge, Maintenance Management Center, Marine Corps Logistics Command, takes notes during a senior enlisted leadership seminar at the Base Conference Center, June 14.

Pamela Jackson
Public Affairs Specialist

Upon his arrival January 21, Sgt. Maj. Christopher Harper, sergeant major, Marine Corps Logistics Command, had several goals in mind. It was to better serve the Marines in his command, respond to any concerns and help improve the quality of life for them and their families.

Harper hosted the first two-day leadership seminar for Marines currently holding the rank of gunnery sergeant and above at the Base Conference Center June 14-15, specifically designed to address their needs and concerns.

“The purpose of this seminar is reset the mindset of our senior staff noncommissioned officers, reiterating the importance of sharing their experience, knowledge and time in the development and mentoring of our junior Marines and to discuss ideas for improvements that will better the readiness of the Marine Corps,” he said. “The end state is for our staff non-commissioned officers to return to their prospective commands smarter in all areas of leadership and more aware of the Corps current challenges.”

In addition to vetting agenda items to be discussed at the upcoming Headquarters Marine Corps Sergeants Major Symposium in August, the topics covered included ethical leadership, sexual assault, suicide prevention, selection boards, Semper Fit program, inspector general trends, educational benefits and information and personal security.

Lawrence Floyd, security manager, Logistics

See **SEMINAR**, page 8

SMC deputy director retires

Nathan L. Hanks Jr.
Public Affairs Specialist

The year was 1983. Ronald Reagan was president. The Philadelphia 76ers won the National Basketball Association championship. The TV show MASH ended after 11 years and 251 episodes on CBS. The price of gas was \$1.17 per gallon and Amando Ruiz III joined the Marine Corps.

On June 16, 27 years and nine months later, in a retirement ceremony held outside of the Base Conference Center in front of Marines, civilian-Marines, family and friends, the lieutenant colonel, deputy director, Supply Management Center, Marine

Corps Logistics Command, retired.

During the retirement ceremony, Col. Ben Braden, chief of staff, Logistics Command, and retiring official, said officers are measured by the Marine Air Ground Task Force model and Ruiz measured up to this task.

Braden highlighted Ruiz’s career and accomplishments as a supply officer by saying, “He is an outstanding Marine in every way. I have come to respect and count on his guidance as a logistician and supply officer. When he speaks, everyone listens.”

Braden ended his speech using a quote from for-

See **DIRECTOR**, page 8



Courtesy photo

Col. Terry Reid, commander, Maintenance Center Albany, speaks during a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Logistics Education Center at Albany Technical College, June 14.

Marines, college partner together

Pamela Jackson
Public Affairs Specialist

What initially began as a vision and potential partnership nearly 10 years ago is now a reality. Albany Technical College opened the doors to its Logistics Education Center during a ceremony at the school, June 14.

Marine Corps Logistics Command, Maintenance Center Albany and ATC have cultivated a working partnership that has lasted for several years.

See **PARTNER**, page 5



Nathan L. Hanks Jr.

Lt. Col. Amando Ruiz III, right, deputy director, Supply Management Center, Marine Corps Logistics Command, receives an American flag from Col. Ben Braden, chief of staff, Marine Corps Logistics Command, during Ruiz’ retirement ceremony held outside of the Base Conference Center, June 16.

Inside this issue:

Marines perform funeral honors for their own



See page 3

MCLB Albany Weather

Friday



Scattered
T-Storms
Hi 94, Lo 72

Saturday



Scattered
T-Storms
Hi 94, Lo 71

Sunday



Scattered
T-Storms
Hi 95, Lo 72

Social Media

Follow the latest happenings on base via Facebook and Twitter:



‘Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, Ga.’



‘MCLBALbany’

MCLB Albany Updates


Commissary hosts Farmer’s Market
Marine Corps Logistics Base Commissary will host a Farmer’s Market July 1-2 featuring a variety of fruits and vegetables.
For more information, call Charles Goodroe, Produce Department manager at (229) 639-5258 or visit www.commissaries.com.

Logistics Command hosts 2011 Small Business Trade Show
Marine Corps Logistics Command invites all small businesses specializing in logistics, industrial electronics, information technology, engineering, maintenance, constructions, material handling or storage, to showcase its products and services at the 2011 Small Business Trade Show, Aug. 4 and 5.
The show will be held at the Albany James. H. Gray Sr. Civic Center. Deadline is June 30.
For more information, call (229) 639-9940.

Military Personnel changes working hours
Military Personnel Center has changed its working hours to 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. During lunch, there will be a Marine on duty to assist customers. Every Thursday from 1-4 p.m. there will be limited services due to training.
For more information, call (229) 639-8857.

Base marathon team seeks runners
There is still an opportunity to run in the 2011 Marine Corps Marathon, Oct. 30. Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany has secured 20 more registrations and is looking for runners to form an official base team.
For more details, call 1st Lt. Sarah Ray at (229) 639-5105 or e-mail sarah.ray@usmc.mil.

Frequently called numbers			
Base information: (229) 639-5000			
AFGE Union	435-3800	Live Oak Lodge	639-5614
Auto Skills Ctr.	639-5226	Medical	639-5976
Barber Shop	432-9485	Navy Federal	888-842-6328
Base Chapel	639-5282	Navy Relief	639-5426
Base Legal	639-5212	Officer of the Day	639-5206
Base Rest.	639-5227	Omega Travel	435-3595
Bowling Ctr.	639-5233	Outdoor Activity	639-5221
Child Care Ctr.	639-5765	Pass & ID	639-5200
CHRO	639-5232	Pharmacy	639-7809
Civilian Jobs	639-5458	Post Office	639-5219
Commissary	639-5258	Seven-Day Store	436-8352
Dental	639-7871	Subway	432-5000
Dry Cleaners	438-2565	Theater	639-5166
Family Svc. Ctr.	639-5276	Thrift Shop	436-2368
Fitness Ctr.	639-6234	TMO	639-5823
Game Warden	639-5188	Veterinarian	(229) 257-3312
Gymnasium	639-5246	Young Marines	639-5285
ITT	639-8177	Youth Activity Ctr.	639-5196




It's All For You!

June 24-30

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Officers' Club opens at 4 p.m. Movie "Thor" PG13 7 p.m. (229) 639-5166 ALL	Movie "Prom" PG 7 p.m. (229) 639-5166 ALL			Playmorn-ing Base Chapel Annex 9:30-10:30 a.m. (229) 639-5199	Officers' Club opens at 4 p.m. MCA Com-mander's Change of Command 9 a.m. Building 2200 Movie "Some-thing Borrowed" PG13 7 p.m. (229) 639-5166	Playmorn-ing Base Chapel Annex 9:30-10:30 a.m. (229) 639-5199 Officers' Club opens at 4 p.m. SNCOs welcome (229) 639-6171


L.I.N.K.S for teens
July 18
9 a.m.— noon at the Youth/Teen Center
Open to family members of active duty, ages 13-18
Call (229) 639-6171



Opening Soon
Building 7450
Aug. 1

The Base Restaurant, Pin City Snack Bar, Bowling Center, SNCO Lounge and the Single Marine/Sailor Recreation Center

Look for more details soon.



Independence Day Celebration

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

4 p.m.

Food vendors open, inflated attractions and rock climbing wall, military and city vehicles on display

5:30 p.m.

K-9 demonstration

5:30 p.m.

"Junkyard Devil Dogs" musical performance

6:30 p.m.

K-9 demonstration

8 p.m.


Patriotic music by the Albany Marine Band

8:45 p.m.

Colors

Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany
July 1
Boyett Park
Fun begins at 4 p.m.
Free and open to the public

Special guest
2011 Miss Georgia



Fireworks at Dark

-Bring blankets and lawn chairs
-No weapons or knives, coolers or pets (excluding service dogs)
-Appropriate civilian attire
-Bags will be inspected
-Come early, parking is limited

MCCS Marketing Hotline: (229) 639-5268
MCCS Web site: <http://www.ala.usmc.mil/mccs/default.asp>
We are very interested in your comments concerning our services. Take a moment to visit our ICE Web site and tell us how we might serve you better:
<http://ice.dlsa.mil/index.cfm?fa=site&site>

Thank You

ELIGIBILITY LEGEND

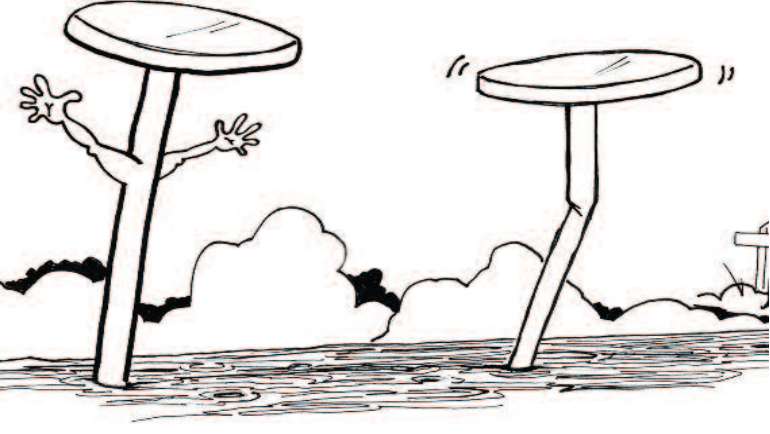
ALL Open to all active duty, retirees, DoD civilians, contractors, reservists and their family members
AD Active duty and their family members
R Retirees and their family members
C DoD civilians and their family members
N Contractors and their family members
V Reservists and their family members

Created by: GySgt Charles Wolf


SEMPERTOONS

THE GREATEST MARINE CARTOONS ON THE PLANET!

I once knew this nail, forget the name now...but it was as hard as a Marine!



IF NAILS COULD TALK

 sempertoons.com

Employee leave donation requests

The following employees are currently approved as leave donation recipients:

- * James Kevin Armstrong, an employee of Marine Corps Police Department, needs leave donations due to an injury. Call Raymond Berry at (229) 639-5186.
- * Anthony Bryant, an employee of Defense Logistics Agency Distribution Albany, needs leave donations due to an illness. Call Mitch Potts at (229) 894-7566.
- *Saundra Crittenden, an employee of Public Safety Division, needs leave donations due to surgery. Call Sandra James at (229) 639-7321.
- * Christopher King, an employee of Maintenance Center Albany, needs leave donations due to surgery. Call Hollis Hale at (229) 639-7349.
- * Steven Sharrow, an employee of Fleet Support Division, needs leave donations due to surgery. Call Mike Layfield at (229) 639-8001.
- * Thomas Smith, an employee of Maintenance Center Albany, needs leave donations due to an illness. Call Leonard Burnham at (229) 639-5366.
- * Jack Thweatt, an employee of Logistics Support Division, needs leave donations due to an illness. Call Glenda House at (229) 639-7799.

To assist any of the above individuals, call the contact person listed or their supervisors for more information.

Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program Open Season


The first Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program open season since 2002 will continue until Friday. The open season is a period of time during which abbreviated underwriting (applicants answer seven rather than 40 questions) is available for actively at work federal employees (includes re-employed annuitants) in positions that convey eligibility for the health insurance (whether or not they are actually enrolled) and their spouses or same-sex domestic partners and active members of the uniformed services and their spouses who are not currently enrolled in the FLTCIP.

Benefits Bulletin 2011-3, Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program Open Season provides specific program information.


The bulletin is available at <http://www.public.navy.mil/donhr/Benefits/resources/Pages/Default.aspx>.

For questions about FLTCIP, call (800) 582-3337 or send an e-mail to info@ltcpartners.com.

The TTY number for the hearing impaired is (800) 843-3557.



THE EMBLEM



Commanding Officer, MCLB Albany.....Col. Terry V. Williams
Public Affairs Officer.....1st Lt. Kyle Thomas
Deputy Public Affairs Officer.....Colie Young
Editor.....Marti Gatlin
Public Affairs Specialists.....Nathan L. Hanks Jr. and Pamela Jackson
Public Affairs Assistant.....Sheron Mathis

To contact the Public Affairs Office, call (229) 639-5215 or stop by Building 3500, Rm. 13.
Marine Corps Logistics Base Public Affairs Office
Mailing address is: 814 Radford Blvd., Suite 20306, Albany, Ga. 31704-0306

The editorial content of this newspaper is edited and approved by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany.

This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Marine Corps and do not imply endorsement thereof.

The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Marine Corps, Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany or the Albany Herald Publishing Company, of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital

status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

Published by The Albany Herald Publishing Company, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of Defense or the United States Marine Corps under exclusive written contract with Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany.

The Albany Herald (U.S.P.S. 012-320), 126 N. Washington St., Albany GA 31701, published daily by Triple Crown Media, Inc., is the legal organ of Dougherty County. Periodicals class postage paid at Albany, GA. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Albany Herald, P.O. Box 48, Albany, GA 31702, Business Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Marines from Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany carry the casket of fallen Marine Cpl. Stephen Coty Sockalosky at Trenton Cemetery in Cordele, Ga., for military honors, last fall. Sockalosky was wounded during combat operations in Afghanistan and died from his injuries.

Marti Gatlin
Editor

Taking care of their own is something Marines don't take lightly. They take care of fellow Marines who have died in battle or even long after they have taken off the uniform by honoring them at their funerals.

Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany's military operations section is the lead for funeral details for those active-duty, former or retired Marines who will be buried in the local or nearby area, according to Bob James, deputy director, Operations and Training Division, MCLB Albany.

"It is something Marines take very seriously," James said, noting the section is exceeding the rates of last year and are already up to nearly 30 for this year. "We honor all Marines who have faithfully served, whether it was a week, a year, 30 years. It is a very solemn responsibility that we take here."

James recommended that current, retired or former Marines prepare for their burials in their wills so their families aren't under a lot of strain when the time comes.

Active-duty, former, retired or reserve Marines who were discharged under honorable conditions can receive the honors, which is among the guidance and procedures Marine Corps Order P3040.4E, Casualty Procedures Manual, Chapter 7, according to Master Sgt. Mark Carabello, Staff Noncommissioned Officer-in-Charge of training, Base Operations, Operations and Training Division, MCLB Albany.

Upon request, the Marine Corps will also render/assist in military funeral honors support for a service member of another branch of service such as Navy corpsmen or chaplains who served with the Marine Corps and were honorably separated, Carabello said.

Next of kin or a funeral home director should notify the Headquarters Marine Corps Casualty Branch if they are requesting military funeral honors from MCLB Albany and only the HQMC Casualty Branch can officially task a Marine unit to perform these honors, he said.

"The command recognizes the need to honor any Marine who honorably served and we do our utmost

to provide what the family wants and that could include a firing detail, pallbearers, playing of Taps and a flag-folding presentation," James said.

To prepare for the solemn ceremonies the Marines consider part of their heritage and traditions, military operations section members go through a complex process once they receive a notice via e-mail from the HQMC Casualty Branch.

"At a minimum, they try to give at least a 24-hour notice," Carabello said. "Normally, we'll have between a 48-hour up to no more than a 72-hour notice once we receive the tasking. The next step from there is we'll identify who's available to perform, how many Marines we can provide, coordinate our logistics (and) practice. We'll coordinate with the funeral home to acknowledge to them that we received the tasker, verify the person, where being buried, when being buried, the type of service, whether it's a casket or an urn because that's going to determine how we physically would perform those honors. We also will contact the next of kin and give our condolences over the phone and we will let them know what we are providing. Once we understand their desires then we'll practice accordingly."

Each funeral is unique, he said. "It is our desire and intent and utmost priority to honor the fallen with the appropriate honors within daily priorities and personnel constraints," he said, noting the minimum requirements are two persons who fold a U.S. flag, present it to the veteran's family and play Taps.

Citing MCO P3040.4E, Carabello said, "The two persons providing honors will be the exception rather than the norm."

MCLB Albany provides 11 Marines when conducting full military funeral honors—a bugler, two Marines to fold and present the flag, a seven-man firing detail and a firing detail commander. Those who are part of the firing detail perform pallbearer duties first and fire the 21-gun salute later on, he added.

"Last year, we performed 54 military funeral honors, two of those were Marines killed in combat," Carabello said. "The majority of them were Marines who served honorably and ages ranged from 40 years of age up to 98 years old."

"One of the things that impresses me most considering this is not our primary job for all of us every time we do this whether it's a Marine (who's) done one or a Marine (who's) done 10, they always maintain a posture of respect while we are doing the practices, doing the preparations, and of course, while performing the honors," he said. "This takes a lot of respect and discipline to focus on what we're doing

and why we're doing it. They always do the best."

Lance Cpl. Jacob Kennedy has served on the funeral detail for about eight months and performed about 30 funerals. An admin specialist with the Military Personnel Center, the 20-year-old from Erie, Pa., volunteered for the duty to help the community.

"The first few you do really hits you because you don't know what it's actually like unless you've been to a funeral before," he said. "It's always pretty hard to see people cry. They're missing their loved ones who passed away. I guess we're just there to help sooth that feeling knowing we're brothers in arms."

One of the most unique funerals, which left a lasting impression on Kennedy, was one of a Marine whose surviving twin brother was in the Air Force.

"Anybody (who) has a twin brother pass away in combat is pretty much like dropping a bomb on you," he said. "When I was standing there in the rifle detail I was thinking like wow what if it was my brother. He was very appreciative we were there and gave each one of us a hug."

For 29-year-old Cpl. Jason Womelsdorf, admin specialist, Military Personnel Center, serving on the funeral detail here since fall 2010 is a privilege he doesn't take for granted.

Although he's only performed fewer than 10 military funerals, the Springfield, Mo., native describes his duties as very fulfilling and "an honor to be able to dignify a Marine's passing with providing ceremonial honors. Not every Marine has the ability or even the opportunity to be able to dignify his brothers or his sisters passing in that way. Personally, it is gratifying to be able to honor the family, the spouse, the kids, the loved ones who are there, by providing that aspect of the service. It's great to be able to hear the reaction they have to us being there."

Part of the firing detail that provides the 21-gun salute during military funeral honors, Lance Cpl. Sarai Perez, admin clerk, Military Personnel Center, has performed three funerals so far.

The 22-year-old Marine said she feels lucky to be able to participate in the special ceremonies.

"They're quite emotional," the Hollywood, Fla., native said. "It's always a pleasure to help honor those people and for what they have done for us because without them there wouldn't be a Marine Corps for me. It isn't for us, it's for the families."

Deceased Marines' next of kin or funeral homes can call the HQMC Casualty Branch at (703) 432-9524 or toll free (866) 826-3628 24 hours a day to request military funeral honors.

martha.gatlin@usmc.mil



Cpl. David Herring, left, and Master Sgt. Mark Carabello practice folding an American flag, recently. They practice regularly so they're always prepared to render proper military funeral honors.



Master Sgt. Mark Carabello, left, leads Marines through a firing detail practice behind the base's armory, June 13. The Marines provide military funeral honors for active-duty, former or retired Marines.

Cadets experience two-day leadership training here



Pamela Jackson
Public Affairs Specialist

While most students look forward to their summer breaks to soak up the sun at the nearest beach, hang out with friends, lounge around watching television or catch up on their sleep, a select group of students from three area high schools recently visited Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany for two intensive days of leadership training.

The Marine Corps Junior Reserved Officers' Training Corps cadets from Westover and Dougherty High Schools, Albany, and Colquitt County High, Moultrie, Ga., began their training with a video and brief from Sgt. Maj. Stephen Thomas, sergeant major, MCLB Albany.

"As young adults, you have to make a lot of decisions, many of which will affect you for the rest of your life," Thomas said. "Something as simple as a sleeve tattoo at age 14 will disqualify you from a lot of things, including the military. We tell Marines now not to do certain things because it prevents them from getting jobs should they decide to get out. It limits you."

Thomas encouraged the cadets to make wise choices and set goals. He also stressed the importance of getting good grades, continuing their education and choosing friends wisely.

"Decide what you want to do one, three, five and 10 years from now," he said. "Ask yourself if the Marine Corps can help you get there. It is also important that you not only graduate, but (do so) as close to the top of your class as possible. You do not want to close any doors, burn any bridges, kill any opportunities by getting into trouble or letting others get you into trouble because you have your whole life ahead of you."

The cadets' training consisted of a tour of Maintenance Center Albany, Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Trainer, a working-dog demonstration, land navigation, sword manual classes, close order drills and a hands-on demonstration of the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program.

Retired Marine Lt. Col. Paul J. Nagy, senior military instructor, Colquitt County High School, said the leadership camp is for all of the students who will be unit and platoon leaders at their respective schools in the fall.

Colquitt County High School Marine Corps JROTC cadet Ivett Soto, 17, takes aim at an insurgent during a visit to the Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Trainer here, June 1. It was part of the cadets' intensive two-day leadership training that also featured a Maintenance Center Albany tour, a working-dog demonstration, land navigation, sword manual classes and more.



Sgt. Maj. Stephen Thomas, sergeant major, Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, listens to a Marine Corps JROTC cadet during a question and answer session following his brief in the base theater, June 1.

pamela.jackson@usmc.mil



Master Gunnery Sgt. John Marbury, senior enlisted adviser and Marine Corps martial arts program instructor trainer, right, teaches Marine Corps JROTC cadets proper self-defense techniques during their visit here, June 1.



Marine Corps JROTC cadets practice close order drill during a visit to Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany June 1 for a leadership training course.

Base community participates in ‘A Midsummer Knight’s Read’

Sheron Mathis
Public Affairs Assistant

Even though it’s summer time and the children are out of school, they can keep their minds stimulated through the base library’s summer reading program.

The theme for 2011 is “A Midsummer Knight’s Read,” and is open to all children between the ages of 4 and 18 years old. Children may participate in the program until July 29, which is sponsored by the Department of Defense.

“Base library has been participating in a summer reading program for over 27 years,” Amos Tookes, library director, Marine Corps Community Services, Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, said.

He said the summer reading program enhances the children’s reading abilities and helps them to retain the same reading level when returning to school.

“It is also educational for them because through reading you learn about the world and yourself,” Tookes said.

Incentive prizes will be awarded to the children participating in the summer reading program based on the number of books read in the different reading categories. The four different reading categories are ages 4-6 years, 7-9 years, 10-12 years and 13-18 years. All age categories, except the teens, receive an incentive prize for every five books read. Tookes said those in the teen category only have to read two books to receive an incentive award because they normally read longer books.

Readers’ goals are to read more than 40 books for ages 4-12 years old and 10 books for ages 13-18 years old. Each child is allowed to check-out 10 books per trip to the library with three weeks to read and return the books.

Some of the incentive prizes will be a midsummer’s knight canvas tote, T-shirts, hot/cold lunch bags, glow water balls, puzzles, pencils, polo shirts and more.

A group of children, ages 5-12, from the Child Development Center’s summer camp are among those competing for the prizes. They listened to Tammy Jones, lead teacher, CDC, read to them at the library, June 16.

Jones said the children are brought to the library twice a week during the summer camp to help them stay up on their reading skills because a lot of them wouldn’t read otherwise.

If they read a book and use their imagination they can go anywhere they want, she added.

Jones noted the teachers try to have the children read five books a week under the library’s summer reading program and encourage parents to bring them to the library and check out books.

Octavian Parks, 10, has been participating in the



Marti Gattlin

Tammy Jones, lead teacher, Child Development Center, reads to children, who are members of the center’s summer camp, as part of the base library’s summer reading program, June 16.

program for four years and enjoys reading to help him learn. His favorite books are a series called “Mostly Ghostly.”

Lauren Brown, 8, has been participating in the program for two years because she enjoys reading and gets to see new things. Her favorite book is “My Best Friend.”

Kennedy Wisniewski, 8, likes to read lots of books because she can learn from the different stories. She said she has no favorite books because she just loves to read different kinds every day.

An awards program will be held in August for the children participating in program. First-place, second-place and third-place trophies will be awarded to the top readers in each age category.

This marks the second year DoD is participating and sponsoring the summer reading program. DoD’s MCCS Library Program is offering two vacation packages for a family of four, sponsored by Delta Vacations, to more than 250 of the world’s most appealing leisure locations as the grand prize for participating in the 2011 Summer Reading Program.

The two packages will be awarded to one summer reading program participant from an east coast and a west coast installation. The participant must be a child or teen of an active-duty service member or retiree.

Registration is continuous and youth can sign up any time until July 29 for the summer reading program at Building 7122, next to the new barracks and across the street from Crouch Memorial Field.

Operating hours are Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. It is open to all active-duty military, retirees, civilian-Marines, contractors and their families. For more information, call the library staff at (229) 639-5242.

sheron.mathis@usmc.mil

Minimize summertime risks

William R. Young
Risk Management Office

There’s an old Gershwin tune that starts “Summer time, and the livin’ is easy.” The 101 Critical Days of Summer, the period between Memorial Day and Labor Day, is a time that has been notorious for injuries and deaths when Marines and Sailors are off duty. According to the Off Duty and Recreational Activity survey at the Marine on-line Ground Climate Assessment Survey System, the top 10 OD&R activities for Marines are:

1. Jogging/Running (under 8 miles)
2. A day at the beach
3. Weight lifting
4. Swimming or snorkeling
5. Intramural sports
6. Yard work or mowing
7. Road biking
8. Hiking
9. Alcohol consumption at activities
10. Martial arts

Take the No. 2 on the list. Often, No. 9 is involved, and the consequences can be serious injury or drowning. The hot sun and dry beach is conducive to dehydration. Alcohol also dehydrates the body. The result can be heat injury and sun-burn.

Yard work/mowing are activities that should be fairly safe, but individuals might be using power tools and chemicals.

Last month, the Navy Safety Center Summary of Mishaps told of a Sailor who was mowing his lawn. He wore steel toe boots and earplugs. The mower clogged up. He left it running and reached into the discharge chute. It spit out the clog and a couple of his fingers.

The Marine Corps provides an excellent tool, Operational Risk Management, to analyze work and off-duty activities to minimize risks.

william.young@usmc.mil

PARTNER, from page 1

“From the time MCA has been at Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, our technical college graduates have gone on to work in various civilian occupations,” said Dr. Anthony Parker, president, ATC. “If you think about what they do, repairing and modernizing military equipment, they need individuals with technical skills, which we offer.”

Parker said the new facility also has a lot of digital and online focuses to accommodate the Marines. The auditorium, computer classroom and the conference training center are purposely built for their associates degree in logistics education, which is designed to help employ and train employees at MCA and other areas on the base.

“Recently, we had a Marine captain that taught a logistics course online and another Marine was able to take the course while she was serving in Afghanistan,” he said. “The inspiration came after 9/11, when we wanted to help the base support and train new employees.”

Col. Terence Reid, commander, MCA, served as one of the speakers, and said as a member of the ATC board of directors, he has seen firsthand the deliberate actions, purpose and commitment to the base. The new logistics education building further strengthens ties between the base and the community.

“At Marine Corps Logistics Command and MCA, we are excited to continue our collaboration with ATC,” he said. “Their focus on logistics education and other careers benefits both the graduates here and the entire region. Our common interest, the development of an innovative and professional logistics workforce, brings us together to share our

knowledge and multiply our talents.”

Reid said the new center exemplifies ATC’s enduring commitment to its students, graduates and the community.

“Just last year we wanted to add a Lean Six Sigma continuous process improvement curriculum to the existing program,” he said. “Dr. Parker and his staff willingly answered the call and we are currently using it. They help us maintain our workforce and we are excited to continue our collaboration with ATC.”

Dougherty County Commission Chairman Jeff Sinyard said the area’s young people will have opportunities to grow and stay in this community because of the big difference this facility will make in Albany.

Echoing those sentiments, Albany Mayor Dr. Willie Adams said the next time Base Realignment and Closure comes around, this type of partnership will be hard to ignore.

pamela.jackson@usmc.mil

Change of Command



Pamela Jackson

Capt. Victor Flores, outgoing company commander, Headquarters and Support Company, Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, right, passes the company guidon to Capt. John Scholl during a change of command ceremony at Boyett Park here, June 14.



Nathan L. Hanks Jr.

Lt. Col. Amando Ruiz III, deputy director, Supply Management Center, Marine Corps Logistics Command, salutes Col. Ben Braden, chief of staff, Logistics Command, and retiring official, during his retirement ceremony June 16 outside the Base Conference Center in front of Marines, civilian-Marines, family and friends after 27 years and nine months of service.

DIRECTOR *from page 1*

mer President Ronald Reagan, “Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference in the world. But, the Marines don’t have that problem.”

“You don’t have that problem,” he said. “On behalf of our country, Corps, commanding general and I, thank you. Semper Fidelis”

Ruiz’s two biggest challenges in his career were his two biggest accomplishments, he said.

“I was a supply officer during Overseas Contingency Operations and was tasked with keeping track and gaining rapid accountability of all the gear in theater,” he said. “Also, I had to account for the personal effects of Marines wounded or killed in action. We were able to establish a system and process which later was incorporated into a Marine Administrative Message to move the effects in a timely manner.”

Ruiz, who considered himself to be well traveled, likened the Marine Corps to sharpening knives.

“To remain sharp, you have to rub against other sharp knives,” he said. “I do not know who I would be today if it were not for the Marine Corps. I have worked for, worked with and have had Marines work for me who were some of the brightest and smartest people I know. You find yourself becoming a better Marine and person because of the experience of working with other people.”

As he shut off his computer and locked the door the last time, he gave some parting comments to young Marines and those wanting to join the Corps.

“The Marine Corps gives you the unique opportunity to work with the best people,” he said. “You cannot put a price on that.”

The Marine Corps, back then and even today, is a great place to start as young adult, according to Ruiz.

“It’s important for all us to continue to preserve the Marine Corps,” he said.

“We, the Corps, are smaller than the other branches of service and the requirements to stay in the Corps are harder,” Ruiz continued. “The Corps is unique because it allows you to remain younger than your actual years because you are surrounded by the next generation of Marines. They keep you mentally and physically young.

“Each generation of Americans that joins the Corps is a little bit different, but ultimately become the same as everyone before them,” he added. “I don’t think the Marines have changed, and as far as dedication and Corps values, I think the Marines are still the same as they were when I joined.”

Ruiz, deputy director, Supply Management Center, Marine Corps Logistics Command, was born in Harlingen, Texas, in 1958 and graduated from Harlingen High School in 1976.

He attended and graduated with honors from Pan American University in Edinburg, Texas, in 1981 where he majored in both history and government. He then accepted a position as a teaching assistant at the university and pursued a Masters Degree in government.

However, before completing his degree, he enlisted in the Marine Corps on Nov. 18, 1983.

Ruiz completed recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Calif., and then transferred to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he obtained the military occupational specialty, legal services specialist. In August 1984, he received orders to his first duty station, Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow, Calif., where he was assigned to the Staff Judge Advocate’s office.

In April 1986, Ruiz, then a corporal, transferred to Marine Barracks Subic Bay, Philippines. While there, he was selected for the Enlisted Commissioning Program.

Trading in his corporal chevrons for gold bars, Ruiz completed Officer Candidates School in Quantico, Va., and was commissioned a second lieutenant on Aug. 15, 1986.

In April 1987, Ruiz completed the Basic Officers Course and received his new MOS, supply officer, in September of the same year.

Ruiz began his career supporting Logistics Command in Barstow, Calif., and as fate would have it, he ended his career in the same command.

Ruiz’s future plans are to move back to Texas with his wife of 24 years, Norma Kathryn Ruiz. After settling in, he wants to become a little league baseball coach. He is still mulling over the name of the team and the color of the uniforms.

nathan.hanks@usmc.mil

SEMINAR, *from page 1*

Command, said it is important for senior Marines to go back and educate their junior Marines on how to maintain security clearances once they have them.

“There are specific reporting requirements during and after they leave the Marine Corps,” he said. “If Marines have personal issues, are on medications, travel overseas or if their spouse is from another country, it is important to keep their leadership and security manager informed.”

Gunnery Sgt. Terrell E. Rountree, equal opportunity advisor, Logistics Command, said the leadership seminar keeps him focused and grounded on what is going on in the Marine Corps and what he and other SNCOs need to be doing as leaders.

“It is important for us to prepare the junior Marines to take over our leadership positions once we move on. I hope Logistics Command continues to have this type of training to keep the senior staff focused on the mission of the Marine Corps,” he said. “Sergeant Major Harper has brought something new to the command that we can continue to grow and build on for years to come.”

Dana Wallace, education services officer, Marine Corps Community Services, MCLB Albany, discussed the importance of lifelong learning for Marines and the educational benefits they are entitled to receive while on active duty and after they get out.

“Any Marine who wants to take college classes are required to take

College 101, which assists them with how to apply for college and utilize tuition assistance,” she said. “Marines receive \$4,500 annually to take college classes and if they do not take advantage of it, the federal government will take it back.”

Wallace said she is proud to say that 40 percent of the Marines stationed here are taking college classes and her goal is to increase that number even more. Representatives from the local colleges come to the base once a month and her office can also assist with choosing a school.

“If it were up to me, I wouldn’t let a Marine out of the Corps without at least an associate’s degree,” Wallace said. “It is just that important and you should certainly urge them to take classes, as well as yourself.”

“Because we are such a small base, we do not offer classes here, but there are several colleges out in town and within a short drive.”

Harper said it was important that the 45 senior enlisted Marines from all three logistics commands, including Blount Island Command, Jacksonville, Fla., and Barstow, Calif., understand their roles so they can share this and other important knowledge with their Marines.

“We want them to step up and be mentors to the younger Marines, teaching them how to be better prepared as they rise through the ranks,” Harper said.

pamela.jackson@ usmc.mil



Pamela Jackson

Dana Wallace, education services officer, Marine Corps Community Services, Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, gives a brief on educational benefits for Marines at the Base Conference Center, June 14.